

SELECTIONS  
FROM THE  
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS  
PUBLISHED IN THE  
PUNJAB, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH,  
AND THE  
CENTRAL PROVINCES,

From the 1st to the 8th of April, 1868.

THE *Ukbar Alum*, of the 5th of March, opens with an article on the "Mismanagement of Post-offices in India." The Editor says that complaints are rise concerning the general mismanagement of this department, and the *Sholatoor* is quoted to the following effect:—"In the first place, subscribers to papers are few; and those who do subscribe soon lose all interest in the papers, in consequence of the delays caused by the Post-office. The Post-office people are called clean dressers, but thieves; they swallow down the property of the public like mother's milk, and papers never reach their destinations. Many people have stopped their subscriptions owing to this; and these Post-office people have caused great loss to printing-offices." The writer proceeds to complain of the general mismanagement apparent in the Postal Department; and expresses a hope that the Government will look to it, as reform is much needed for the benefit of the public, &c., &c. The writer thinks that if the Government translator would publish these complaints in his Report, there might be some hope of Government hearing of them.

A friend of the *Ukbar Alum*, writing from Peshawur, is quoted concerning affairs in Afghanistan. Sirdar Abdool Rhyman Khan, with his army, is said to be at Tuktabool. Some disturbance at Bulkh is alluded to; but it is said that when the *hakim's* troops appeared, they all fled. The writer goes on to say:—"The *Shahzadah*, Feroze Shah, rebel of 1857, went

to the King of Bokhara and had an interview ; the king was much pleased with him, and ordered him Rs. 60 per month, as pay. After this, he was enlisted in the Russian army, and is now in Cabul. The Ameer of Cabul, according to his request, sent him on to the Akhoond of Swat, who has built a very nice place for him, and has appointed him Governor (*hakim*) of Swat.

The *Meerut Gazette* is circulated with the above paper ; but it does not contain anything that requires notice.

The *Koh-i-Noor*, of the 7th of March, replies to some remarks in *Indian Public Opinion*, concerning the Abyssinian war, of no importance to Government.

The *Zea-ool Ukbar*, of the 10th of March, mentions on the authority of a correspondent, that "a *fakir* of good appearance, named *Sadhu Sahib*, is, or was, encamped at Umritsur ; where his bedding is spread under a tree, round which fire is burning. This person is said to be visited by many persons, especially by females, but as yet he has not performed any miracle !"

The Ulwur Rajah is said to have decreased the rates of pay, both in the civil and military departments. From the 1st of March, all were to have received half-pay. The Editor adds, that this is not like the Maharajah's acts ; and that no one will approve of this change in their pay.

The *Gwalior Gazette*, of the 1st of March, after noticing the murder of a child at Jhansie, for the sake of its ornaments, which were found in the shop of a goldsmith, publishes the following :—"Mr. (Col. ?) Keatinge has hit upon a good plan for bringing about an amicable arrangement between the Rajahs of Jeypore and Ulwur, who were at variance in consequence of the case of the Thakoor Lukdheer Singh. The Maharajah of Jeypore is said to be satisfied with Colonel Keatinge's proposition ; but the Ulwur Chief will, it is said, appeal.

The *Rahnoomai Punjab*, of the 6th of March, quotes the *Un-jumun Hind*, to the effect that a *Moulvie* named Surfuraz Ali,

resident of Goruckpore, " who in the year of the rebellion planted the flag of faith, and then fled to Nepaul, has, it is now stated, been presented with two villages by the Chief of Nepaul."

The *Ukbar Unjumun*, of the 7th of March, does not require special notice.

The *Khair-khwah Punjab*, of the 10th of March, refers to a case of poisoning at Dehra Ishmael Khan. It seems that the gardener of the Government gardens placed some poisoned bread in his house for the purpose of destroying rats, and at the same time warned all the other gardeners against going into the house. When he returned, he found that the bread had disappeared ; he enquired concerning it, but the other gardeners denied all knowledge of it, until one of them died in consequence of having stolen and eaten it. The Editor remarks on how much mischief may result from a little carelessness.

The *Sholatoor*, of the 10th of March, says that Sir Jung Bahadour is making great preparations for war against Thibet ; that his advanced guard had already reached Lassa, but that the roads would not be open until April, &c., &c.

The *Oudh Ukbar* is quoted concerning the ex-King Wajid Ali, who is said to be very much improved in every respect. The writer declares that he is quite changed, looks much after his household affairs, and begins to understand the meaning of " profit and loss." " What wonder then," adds the writer, " if he continues so, some other sign will show itself, and he has also a wish to see the Governor-General." The writer continues :— " After such a long time the good news has been heard that if the *Huzrut* (Highness) had not become worthless to his salt, he might not have been banished from his country ; and then why would the evil results of the mutiny have fallen upon Lucknow ? If, like other ruling powers, he had escaped from the general disturbance, it would not have been wonderful if Lucknow too had escaped. The man who forgets his home in the morning, and returns even in the evening, cannot be said to have gone astray. God grant that this be true, viz., that the King has returned to the right path."

Referring to the plunder of some weavers, who were proceeding from the village of Sumbul to Soorsie market, (Moradabad,) the Editor says that although Government has instituted strict measures for the prevention of such crimes, and although the authorities of the district and the police officers are watchful and particular about these *dacoitee* (robbery) cases, still the bad characters who follow up crime cannot be suppressed, but are always giving trouble to God's creatures.

The *Naiya Rajistan*, of the 6th of March, mentions that the Governor-General is now much in favor of establishing railways ; which he says was not always the case. The writer proceeds to show that the Governor-General now takes great interest in the plans submitted by Colonel Elphinstone, "and has discovered that the people of this country will not spend their money in the construction of railways, because the Government has not offered favorable conditions to them," &c., &c. The writer goes on to express pleasure at having heard of two committees having been formed—one at Lahore, the other at Rawul Pindie ; one for the purpose of ascertaining the views of the people of Peshawur in regard to railway extension ; the other with regard to the three branches from the Delhi and Punjab line : *viz.*, one from Umballa to Kalka ; the second between Umballa and Pathankote ; and the third between Ferozepore and Raiwund ;" &c., &c.

The *Nujm-ool Ukbar*, of the 11th of March, quotes the *Lawrence Gazette* concerning the tribes *Harboorah*, who travel about the country, destroy fields of cultivation, and plunder travellers whenever opportunity offers. The writer confesses that the British Government have done much towards civilization and improvement ; but that editors of newspapers and writers of history can vouch for the fact that these wild tribes have not yet been brought into the right path. An instance is recorded, where a party of this tribe plundered two travellers, named "Hydat Ali Khan and Hussain Ali Khan, who were proceeding to Allygurh in a bullock carriage, when within two miles of the city : they also stole some cattle belonging to other people, but owing to the noise that was made, they left them behind and ran off." The writer consi-

ders it incumbent on Government to adopt preventive measures in regard to these people.

The *Ukmil-ool Ukbar*, of the 11th of March, mentions that the Maharajah of Cashmere is, for the present, willing to make over all deserters from Government regiments who may seek shelter in his domains, and that he has had this proclaimed throughout the country.

The *Oudh Ukbar*, of the 10th of March, mentions on the authority of a correspondent, that "Sirdar Mahomed Surwur Khan is a great tyrant, and oppresses the Candaharees very much. Complaints have, it is said, been sent in against him, but with no good effect." The writer says:—"A person who was ordered to be imprisoned, offered Rs. 1,000 to be let off; upon which Rs. 5,000 were at once demanded, which sum was paid after eight days delay; but this had no effect, and the prisoner was still confined. The reason given for this injustice was, that the victim had plenty of money! The writer goes on to say that as thefts are rife at night, and no one will interfere, it is supposed that the rulers are mixed up in them."

The *Mujm-ool Bharain*, of the 10th of March, notices the settlement of the Kuppoorthola Rajah's disputes with his brother, by the Government.

Concerning the successor of Sir John Lawrence, as Governor-General of India, the writer says:—"There are various opinions; some say that "Muir" will get it; but from what is known of him, it does not appear that he is worthy of this high appointment. At present there are three worthy successors in the field, and if either of them is selected, the public will be satisfied; *viz.*, Lords Stanley, Cranbourne, and Cameron."

The *Allygurh Institute*, of the 13th of March, publishes the usual amount of matter in English and Oordoo.

The *Rohilkund Ukbar*, of the 7th of March, under the heading "Humeerpore," publishes an article in praise of Mr. Charles Grant, Collector of that district. Among other im-

provements noticed as having been effected by this gentleman, is the erection of a market, "which will be a great convenience to the people at that place," &c., &c.

A disturbance at Bangalore is referred to. "A Hindoo, with some cavalry or horsemen, passed under a Mahomedan temple, beating drums, and making a great noise, and would not desist when remonstrated with. When this was brought before Mr. " Pagul," *Sahib*, Magistrate, who was in camp at Bangalore, he warned the offender mildly not to repeat the offence; but this was not heeded, and the same thing was repeated; upon which the Mahomedans threw stones and bricks at him, and the case came before the *Sahib* Commissioner. The man was fined Rs. 3,000, and has left Bangalore in great grief, declaring that until his case is settled to his satisfaction, he will not return.

The *Nusseem Jounpore*, of the 10th of March, does not require special notice.

The *Adebe Hind*, of the 13th of March, refers to the petition of Rajah Sahib Dyal, that his sons may be allowed chairs in the Durbar; the writer says that the Governor-General will take time to consider.

A correspondent of this paper at Bareilly states, that a gentleman has arrived there, who says that a great argument is going on between some *Padres* (clergymen) and some *Moulvies* (Mahomedan priests). "It has been resolved that if the Mahomedans are silenced in their argument, they are to become Christians; but up to the time of writing, nothing was settled on either side. Let us see what will follow." The Editor expresses surprise that these two parties should be disputing, while the British Government, friendly to all, has ruled that each should follow his own creed. He proceeds:—"These people dispute without cause; for we do not think that those who are unable to answer the argument will keep their promise. But if it be possible for Christians to join Mahomedans, and Mahomedans Christians, it might so happen; but only prejudice and ill-feeling can result from this argument. We are of opinion that it would be well for the

Government to make some arrangements ; otherwise, though nothing will go wrong with the *Padres*, the Mahomedans will be ashamed."

A Syud (respectable Mahomedan) is said to have arrived at the village of Marhurrah, in the Etah District, from Bulkh ; and he states that he " was a landed proprietor of Cabul, but that the late Uszul Khan confiscated his property ; that he then enlisted in the service of the King of Bokhara, who also went on one side ; and had since wandered about from place to place in search of food. The writer adds, it is not known who this man is, whence he has come, and what is his business."

The *Oordoo Delhi Gazette*, of the 14th of March, notices the capture of some rebel *sipahis* in the résidence of the ex-King of Oudh, at Garden Reach, Calcutta.

The *Malwa Ukbar*, of the 4th of March, mentions the case of a European who went to Cashmere, was treated with the Maharajah's accustomed liberality to a house rent-free, stayed the winter there, and then wrote to the *Friend of India* complaining of the Maharajah. The writer heads the article " Ingratitude of Europeans," and urges that the Maharajah of Cashmere always does his utmost for the comfort and convenience of European visitors to his dominions. He, the writer, furthermore animadverts on the conduct of the *Friend of India* in publishing the letter, and expresses his satisfaction at the Editor of the *Englishman* for publishing the true state of the case.

The *Ukbar Alum*, of the 12th of March, publishes an editorial on " Travelling and its Advantages." The writer says :— " The noble and wealthy men of Hindoostan do not lean to anything like public reform. Those who are ambitious and desirous of doing good, subscribe towards colleges and schools ; but they never evince any desire to travel and see the world ; nor do they, if they cannot themselves leave the country, do anything to assist their brethren. If it be said that they have not leisure, this is not a valid reason, because for a month at a time they keep themselves confined to the women's

apartments, and do not show themselves ; and should they even not do this, it is all the same, because they never do any work, so that if they went abroad no loss to the State would accrue. Nor need it be argued that there is discomfort in travelling, because the wealthy need not be subjected to any discomfort ; wherever they go, they pitch their tents, and are surrounded by comforts ; besides which, owing to the British rule, there are beautiful roads, halting-places, and staging bungalows, while the railway line is less expensive than the old mode of conveyance. If the going away from one's country brings trouble, good-bye to such management and rule. The European Kings go from place to place with all comfort, and yet cause no hindrance to the work in their dominions ; and in Hindooostan, the Begum of Bhopal went to Mecca, and yet contrived to keep up her management ; and the Begum is a woman ; and then her ambition led her to travel by ship so many miles : she became greater than men who have no heart to see other countries. The Queen Victoria herself goes from country to country, and her resolution is worth thousands of such men. In short, our argument is that if Chiefs of this country cannot travel like her, they might assist those who have the will, and not the means ; it would be a great thing ; and to men of great minds, such assistance would be as nothing ; but the chiefs of this country will not think of this."

Referring to a case of false seizure in Central India by the police, the writer says that a warrant had been issued to arrest an European and two other foreigners, who were supposed to have made away with a large amount of property ; and two inspectors were on the look-out for them at Jubbulpore ; they accordingly seized three Europeans in a first-class carriage on the railway, and although the gentlemen remonstrated, the police did not heed them, but took them into Court, where it was soon proved that they were not the party "wanted," and they were set at liberty. The writer adds :—" These gentlemen were much disgraced, and the inspectors are deserving of punishment ; for although the act was not wilful, still much inconvenience and disgrace was caused to the gentlemen ; and if these police are not punished, others may act in a similar manner. I know full well that the police do even more than this ; and about ten or twelve years ago they, the police,

went to capture some two hundred people, in the same way, and without any cause."

The *Meerut Gazette* of the 14th of March, the *Koh-i-Noor* of the same date, the *Moofeed-ool Anam* of the 10th, the *Rahnoomai Punjab* of the 13th, the *Punjabee Ukbar* of the 13th, the *Julwatoor* of the 16th, the *Tutboodnee Puthur* of the 15th of February, and the same paper of the 29th of the same month, do not require special notice.

The following vernacular newspapers have been examined in this Report, *viz.* :—

No.	NAME OF PAPER.	WHERE PUBLISHED.	DATE.	WHEN RECEIVED.
1	<i>Ukbar Alum,</i>	Meerut,	1868. March, 5th	1868. March, 10th
2	<i>Koh-i-Noor,</i>	Lahore,	„ 7th	„ 10th
3	<i>Meerut Gazette,</i>	Meerut,	„ 7th	„ 10th
4	<i>Zea-ool Ukbar,</i>	Dehli,	„ 10th	„ 10th
5	<i>Gwalior Gazette,</i>	Gwalior,	„ 1st	„ 11th
6	<i>Rahnoomai Punjab,</i>	Sealkote,	„ 6th	„ 11th
7	<i>Unjumup Ukbar,</i>	Lucknow,	„ 7th	„ 11th
8	<i>Khair-khwah Punjab,</i>	Goojranwalla,	„ 10th	„ 11th
9	<i>Sholatoor,</i>	Cawnpore,	„ 10th	„ 11th
10	<i>Naiya Rajistan,</i>	Jeypore,	„ 6th	„ 13th
11	<i>Nujm-ool Ukbar,</i>	Meerut,	„ 11th	„ 13th
12	<i>Ukmil-ool Ukbar,</i>	Dehli,	„ 11th	„ 13th
13	<i>Oudh Ukbar,</i>	Lucknow,	„ 10th	„ 14th
14	<i>Nujm-ool Bharain,</i>	Loodiana,	„ 12th	„ 14th
15	<i>Allygurh Institute,</i>	Allygurh,	„ 13th	„ 14th
16	<i>Rohilcund Ukbar,</i>	Moradabad,	„ 7th	„ 15th
17	<i>Nusseem Jounpore,</i>	Jounpore,	„ 10th	„ 15th
18	<i>Adebe Hind,</i>	Dehli,	„ 13th	„ 15th
19	<i>Oordoo Dehli Gazette,</i>	Agra,	„ 14th	„ 15th
20	<i>Malwa Ukbar,</i>	Indore,	„ 4th	„ 16th
21	<i>Ukbar Alum,</i>	Meerut,	„ 12th	„ 16th
22	<i>Meerut Gazette,</i>	Ditto,	„ 14th	„ 15th
23	<i>Koh-i-Noor,</i>	Lahore,	„ 14th	„ 16th
24	<i>Moofeed-ool Anam,</i>	Futtehgurh,	„ 12th	„ 17th
25	<i>Rahnoomai Punjab,</i>	Sealkote,	„ 13th	„ 17th
26	<i>Punjabee Ukbar,</i>	Lahore,	„ 13th	„ 17th
27	<i>Julwatoor,</i>	Meerut,	„ 16th	„ 17th
28	<i>Tutboodnee Puthur,</i>	Bareilly,	Feby. 15th	„ 12th
29	<i>Ditto,</i>	Ditto,	„ 29th	„ 12th

(True translation.)

GEORGE WAGENTREIBER,

Government Translator of Selections from Vernacular  
Newspapers, Upper India.

DELHI :  
The 8th April, 1868. }

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